



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. MBM1270

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Pandian et al. Art Unit: 1634  
Application No.: 09/940,296 Examiner: E.C. Whisenant  
Filed: August 27, 2001 Conf. No.: 7256  
Title: METHOD OF AMPLIFICATION FOR INCREASING THE SENSITIVITY  
OF DETECTING NUCLEIC ACID-PROBE TARGET HYBRIDS

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION**

Responsive to the Office Action mailed February 2, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

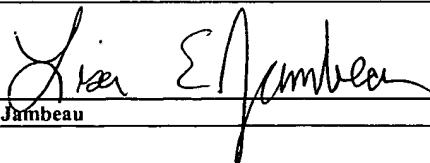
**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8**

I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on this date, **July 2, 2004**, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Lisa E. Jambeau